

Mr Prior resists plea to rush into more union reforms

Mr James Prior took the high road of statesmanship and national leadership in resisting demands at the Conservative conference for further government action to restrict trade union activities.

Cooperation of workers urged

Mr James Prior took the high road of statesmanship and national leadership in resisting demands at the Conservative conference for further government action to restrict trade union activities. He vowed to stick to his step-by-step approach to union reform and issued a powerful appeal for the cooperation of workers, urging them to get involved.



Scafront shelter; Mr Prior and his wife at Brighton yesterday.

Pressure groups launch attack on 'stage management' of agenda

A strong attack on the stage management of the conference has been launched by the five main pressure groups within the party. A preliminary report to be published at a meeting in Brighton today describes the conference as a "disgrace" and says that pressure for change in the arrangements is long overdue. It complains that motions are too bland and self-congratulatory, with important issues being sidestepped, and calls for reforms to make debates more controversial and lively.

King Husain steps up assistance to Iraq despite US warning

The most important assistance being given to the Iraqis is the use of the wide-ranging facilities at the Red Sea port of Aqaba, which is situated at the southernmost tip of Jordan in clear sight of the Israeli resort and harbour complex of Eilat. The port—which was already being expanded with Iraqi financial backing—is proving an invaluable substitute for Basra, Iraq's main harbour which has been under continual bombing. Reliable reports reaching Amman today said that over 40 ships are now waiting to be unloaded at Aqaba, compared with the average total for October of 16. Under an agreement signed two years ago, but only recently acted upon, Iraqi transporters are being given free access to carry cargoes from the docks overland to Iraq. Visitors to the port say that Iraqi vehicles are coming in large numbers to remove the vital cargoes now being unloaded round the clock.

Post-holocaust plans leaked to 'Statesman'

By Henry Stanhope. Defence Correspondent. Military plans for the defence of Britain in wartime, including special courts to dispense after a nuclear attack, are outlined in this week's edition of the New Statesman. The working party report, which it hopes to put before the next meeting of the party's central council, in March, proposes major reforms in defence planning, including the creation of a new Ministry of Defence and the Home Office tested their preparedness for dealing with an assault upon the homeland in a hypothetical third world war.

ANIMAL EXPERIMENTS CANNOT BE REGULATED

Consideration is now being given in Parliament to amending the law governing animal experimentation in the UK. The present law, the Cruelty to Animals Act 1876, allows an unlimited number of animals to be used in painful experiments, and well over five million animals suffer in British laboratories each year. The National Anti-Vivisection Society believes that vivisection must be totally prohibited, and pending its final abolition, the NAVS calls for ROYAL COMMISSION. The appointment of a Royal Commission of Inquiry before new legislation is attempted. ALTERNATIVES. The re-allocation of Government research funds away from animal experimentation to alternative ethically acceptable methods of research. NO NEW LICENCES TO VIVISECT. An immediate ban on the issue of licences to any new applicants not previously licensed.

Date fixed for Labour leadership conference

The special Labour Party conference to resolve the dispute left by last week's decision principle to widen the franchise for electing the party leader will be held at Wembley Saturday, January 24. The place and date seem to have been virtually forced on the party's officials by the continuation of the decision to hold the conference on rules revision at the same time and place as the annual conference, which is to be held at the same time and place as the annual conference, which is to be held at the same time and place as the annual conference.

Rise in car sales improves chance for BL's Metro

Car sales last month were the second highest September figure recorded. If maintained, the sales could improve prospects for BL's new mini-Metro. Industry figures also show a slight reduction in import levels compared with previous months. Top sellers were led by Ford's Fiesta, Escort and Focus, followed by the BL's Metro, Allegro and Fiat's total share of sales increased to 19.2 per cent.

Another setback for ill-starred 'Macbeth'

Plans to take the Old Vic production of Macbeth to a European tour next summer have collapsed after a Dutch impresario backing the show withdrew. It is understood that he was influenced by savage criticism of the play, featuring Peter O'Toole, when it opened in London last month. The lavish West End musical Summer of '68 is to close next month with a probable £500,000 loss.

More troops withdrawn from Ulster bases

Another 420 soldiers are being withdrawn from Northern Ireland and two military bases in Belfast will be closed next month. It will be the third time this year that troop levels have been reduced.

Chancellor pledges action to plug tax loophole

Sir Geoffrey Howe, Chancellor of the Exchequer, promised yesterday to plug the loophole which enabled the wealthy to avoid paying millions of pounds of taxes. He said at people who lived in Britain could be taxed on any benefits received, wherever they came from. A House of Lords ruling against the Inland Revenue last November had, he said, in a radio interview, "stripped from the Revenue the instrument at its heart, relied upon to tax the wealthy."

Two hanged in Turkey

A right-wing, extremist and a leftist, both convicted of terrorist attacks, were hanged in Ankara, the first executions in Turkey since 1972. The father of one of the men tried to delay the execution. An Istanbul newspaper said another 51 people faced the death sentence. 14 of them common criminals, the rest political offenders.

Contract killing alleged

Three men made a deal to tout for business as contract killers after completing a "perfect murder", a jury at the Central Criminal Court was told. John Chiswick, serving life imprisonment for the murder of a woman, said they were paid £1,800 for killing Mr George Brett. Four men deny murder charges.

£850,000 pools win

A former police sergeant collected more than £850,000 on Littlewoods Pools. His wife said she had been told by a fortune-teller that she would win a lot of money.

Kabul nurse's story

An Afghan nurse, who arrived in Delhi, has described conditions in an overcrowded military hospital in Kabul. She said that on average 20 bodies of Soviet soldiers and 30 Afghan bodies were left in every week. She also related the mutilations inflicted on the soldiers by insurgent guerrillas. She saw the body of a Soviet general with eyes gouged out and Afghan bodies with faces and noses cut off.

Poverty trap 'worse'

Poverty patterns would be a more accurate description of the poverty trap, which had never been worse, Dr Jonathan Bradshaw of York University, said. It did not matter if workers earned £50 or £100 a week because what they had left to spend after taxes and benefits were almost the same.

£850,000 pools win

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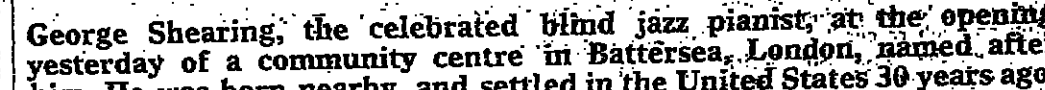
# Unions put high price on cooperation with the Government

## Court application on union election is adjourned

needed time to reply to the defendants' evidence which he had received on the previous evening. Mr Quentin Edwards QC, for the defendants, agreed to the adjournment. Mr Justice Fox agreed that the case should be heard later.

officer of the National Graphic Association, said there had been "a hiccup" in the talks which, until the closure was announced, had been making progress.

The *Daily Star's* circulation is just over a million copies



The passenger side of the business had now regained its "pre-Beeching" levels, he said, achieving more passenger-miles last year than it did when the

700 maintenance craftsmen flour mills throughout United Kingdom last, and failed in two hours of talks to persuade the employers raise a pay offer above 15 cent on the basic rate of ab £68 a week. A strike would rapidly disrupt bread supply.

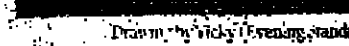
Mr Gavin Laird, leader of the union side, said: "They are in a deadly earnest fact that they want to consolidate the position among themselves is encouraging, the

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range. The company  
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the London road  
to the rest of the  
country. The road  
is now being  
developed by the  
government. It is  
a major project  
and will cost  
£100 million.

**cliffs under attack**

the North West  
cliffs are under  
attack. The cliffs  
are being eroded  
by the sea. The  
government is  
planning to build  
a sea wall to  
protect the cliffs.

**region remanded**

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been remanded  
to the court. The  
region is being  
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court because of  
the evidence against  
it. The region is  
being remanded to  
the court for a  
further hearing.

**omen accept pay**

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accepted the pay  
offer. The women  
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offer. The offer is  
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happy to accept it.

**order charge**

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it. The order is  
being charged for  
a further hearing.

**100,000 stamps**

the 100,000 stamps  
have been issued. The  
stamps are being  
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being issued for  
a further hearing.

**supply**

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being increased for  
a further hearing.



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## HOME NEWS

## Concessions on block grant undermine campaign against Bill

By Christopher Warman  
Local Government Correspondent

Concessions to Conservative-controlled local authorities by the Government have effectively ended any chance of defeating the controversial proposals for a block grant system at the committee stage of the Local Government Planning and Land Bill in the House of Lords.

That is the belief in the Association of Metropolitan Authorities (AMA), although it is not publicly acknowledged while the Bill is under consideration.

Mr Jack Smart, chairman of the AMA, said only that the association had been told that a deal had been struck between leaders of the Association of County Councils and Mr Michael Heseltine, Secretary of State for the Environment.

It is apparent that opposition will not be united against the section of the Bill that introduces the block grant, setting out a standard level of expenditure for each local authority. Sufficient concessions have

been agreed with the generally lower-spending county councils to mute the protest against a measure that could give the Government greater control over council spending.

The non-metropolitan counties have been concerned that they might lose grant under the new system because they underspent. That is likely to be corrected in the detailed implementation of the grants.

Using the new system, exemplifications have shown that they could gain grant from the Government at the expense of the cities, and in particular London. London could lose up to £100m in grant, mainly in the inner boroughs.

That would mean the imposition of a "safety net" to ensure that the loss was not too great. A special meeting of the AMA's policy committee yesterday agreed unanimously that the alleged deal should be discussed at the next meeting of the joint consultative committee on local government finance on October 15.

If a deal has been made, the AMA will claim that it should have been consulted.

## Singer loses fight to prove friend's will a forgery

Mrs Charmaine Edwards yesterday lost an attempt in the High Court to prove that Mr Leon Taylor, a businessman, had left her his £80,000 estate in a missing will.

She was told by Mr Justice Goff that she had produced no evidence to support her allegations that an earlier will, in which Mr Taylor left everything to his two sons, was a forgery.

During a two-day hearing, Mrs Edwards, a singer, aged 29, claimed that one of Mr Taylor's executors, Mr Walter Cooley, a magistrate, had been involved in suppressing the will which favoured her.

Mr Cooley, a Justice of the Peace, and borough councillor,

said he had carried out Mr Taylor's instructions. The judge said he had no real doubts that the 1977 will naming Mr Taylor's sons had been properly executed and that, on the balance of probabilities, the signature on it was Mr Taylor's.

Mrs Edwards, of Winkfield, Berkshire, had produced no evidence to confirm her suspicions. He gave judgment for the executors in favour of the 1977 will and ordered Mrs Edwards to pay the executors' costs of the case.

Mrs Edwards, who moved into Mr Taylor's home in Windsor Forest shortly before he died last year, said she would appeal against the decision.



## Looking after Granny

"I woke at the 4.30 alarm, and began dressing with a resentful feeling that already I was too late, the soles of my feet felt tender when I stood up."

"Downstairs to Granny's room. She was asleep and I felt bad as I touched her shoulder. 'Let's go to the toilet, Granny,' I said in a stage-cheerful shout. 'She began to squeak wordlessly of an extraordinary high note. 'You put your legs out,' I said, pulling back the blankets."

This is the reality behind the phrase, 'community care'. In this week's New Society, one wife tells her story in vivid detail.

Also this week: Frank Blackaby on the economy. Jonathan Bradshaw on the poverty plateau. Suicides by fire. America's new patriots. Andrew Tudor on Godard.

**society**

EVERY THURSDAY 40p

## 'Dr Death' took 50 times lethal dose

From Our Correspondent Colchester

A depressed doctor who claimed to have invented a three-second suicide pill did not use it to end his life, an inquest at Witham, Essex, was told yesterday.

In spite of intensive police inquiries, there was no evidence to suggest that Dr John Goundry's painless "demise pill" existed.

Dr Goundry, aged 48, who was dubbed "Dr Death", because of his views on suicide, killed himself with 50 times the lethal dose of cyanide after drinking half a bottle of gin, the inquest heard.

Detective Sergeant Geoffrey Aves said that Dr Goundry had attracted widespread publicity over his claim to have invented a "demise pill".

He had given many interviews and had referred to his pill in correspondence. He had also talked of visiting doctors in Germany and Switzerland in connection with his work on the pill.

But many of those foreign trips had not taken place, Sergeant Aves said.

Dr Goundry suffered from bouts of depression and had received psychiatric treatment several times. On the morning of his death last August, he took early and violent "Friend's home" where he drank three glasses and then left for a 3 am. Soon afterwards he telephoned a woman friend, Mrs Patricia Birch, to come back to him.

Three hours later he was found collapsed on the floor of a caravan in the garden of his home, September Cottage, Blackmoor End, near Braintree, Essex.

Sergeant Aves said he found a container marked "potassium cyanide" in the kitchen at Dr Goundry's cottage. He also found a half-empty bottle of gin in a cupboard and quantities of various drugs.

Sergeant Aves read a statement from Dr Goundry's son, Mr Gregory Goundry, a medical student, aged 22. He said that he had met his father in the street on the morning of his death, was crying and mentioned both his wife, from whom he was separated, and Mrs Birch.

Dr Charles Clark, the coroner, was told that police inquiries had failed to establish how Dr Goundry obtained the poison. He recorded a verdict that Dr Goundry took his life.



New Eliza: Caroline Villiers, who will take over on October 27 as Eliza in My Fair Lady at the Adelphi Theatre, London.

## Casino licence objections to be heard out of time

From Arthur Osman Birmingham

Any misdemeanours in the Ladbroke organisation in London four years ago had nothing to do with the running of the group's Birmingham casino in 1980, the Birmingham betting and gaming licensing committee was told yesterday.

Mr John Mathew, QC, on behalf of Ladbroke Ltd, a subsidiary of City and Provincial Gaming Holdings, which runs Ladbroke's international casino in Birmingham, failed to stop an application by three local casino owners to have their objections to the renewal of the casino's licence.

Their objections were nearly three months "out of time" under the terms of the Gaming Act. But the committee exercised its discretion and said it would hear the objections at a date to be fixed.

The Birmingham casino is one of five Ladbroke provincial establishments that are the subject of a conditional sale for a reported £4.4m to the

Reo Stakis organisation of Glasgow, which runs 12 provincial casinos.

Ladbroke Ltd wishes to renew the licence in Birmingham to transfer it to Reo Stakis. That has happened at Leeds and Middlesbrough and applications are pending at Bristol and Stockton.

Yesterday Mr Gareth Williams, QC, on behalf of the three casinos at Birmingham and Dudley, said the matter was of fundamental importance not only in Birmingham but for the wider public.

The last date for objections to the renewal of the licence for Ladbroke's Birmingham casino was April 15 this year. At that time there were substantial objections from the Gaming Board itself and the three casinos believed these would continue and the public interest would be represented by the board.

In July it was discovered the board would not continue with its objections, and the three decided to lodge their own.

## EEC tour for O'Toole 'Macbeth' called off

By Martin Hinchey

The Old Vic production of Macbeth with Peter O'Toole has run into more difficulties: the planned tour of the play round European capitals next summer has collapsed.

It was separately announced in London yesterday that the production of Stephen Sondheim's musical Sweeney Todd is to close next month, with a probable loss to its backers of as much as £500,000.

Macbeth was due to visit the capitals of the EEC countries in a nine-week tour next May. It was to be the last of a series of tours, with the Old Vic backing out. The Old Vic would give no information last night but it is believed that the arrangement fell through because of the reviews of the production when it opened in London last month.

Extra finance for the tour, which was due to include performances in Paris at the 30th anniversary of the Comedie Francaise, had been sought from the British Council. The council never gives funds until it has seen the production, and the council's advisers, who were asked to see Macbeth, the council's advisers, committee deferred its decision. Now the decision has become unnecessary.

After Macbeth opened, doubts were expressed in theatre circles about the advisability of the Old Vic, and

indeed British theatre in general, being represented on a tour in Europe by such a production.

The Old Vic believed that Mr O'Toole was sufficiently big international star to draw audiences in Europe and thus the tour should go ahead, clearly those involved have had second thoughts.

The closure of the big musical Sweeney Todd was not entirely unexpected. Despite the money lavished on the production, the reviews were only moderately enthusiastic.

Mr Bob Swash, of Robert Stigwood Ltd, the producers, said yesterday that it was a very expensive show to run, costing 30 people on stage, and audiences had not been large enough for it to pay. It will close off on November 15 after a four-and-a-half month run. Mr Swash said that most of the £200,000 invested in the show would be lost.

The general recession and poor audiences in the West End contributed to the show's difficulties. Sweeney Todd has on average 100 people on stage, and the producers were perhaps uncertain about what the show was like.

Mr Swash thought matters were not helped by some of the critics, whom he felt were confused by Sweeney Todd because they were unable to categorise it.

## University teachers unlikely to receive 13% pay rise

By Diana Geddes

Recommendations that university teachers receive a salary increase of 13 per cent from October 1, is being considered by government ministers, but it is thought most will approve such an increase.

The recommendation was put forward last week by Sir Alexander Johnston, the independent chairman of the University Teachers' Salary Review Committee, in a report to the Association of University Teachers.

The university teachers had sought a rise of 18 per cent, later reduced to 16 per cent, over and above their 17 per cent comparability award, the second year of a three-year award.

The association points out that the proposed 13 per cent

increase is well within the Government's allowance of 14 per cent rises for pay and prices, which was built into the universities' recurrent grant for the present academic year, and says that the Government should therefore consider it in giving its approval.

The Government, however, sees the university teachers as one of the first groups of public sector workers in the new pay review system, traditionally begun in September, and, as Mr Michael Heseltine, Secretary of State for the Environment, made clear at Brighton on Tuesday, it is determined to keep public sector wages in line with single figures.

The university teachers are upset about their treatment by the Government over their comparability award. They were given 17 per cent while their counterparts in the maintained sector, the college lecturers, received a comparability award of 18 per cent plus a 12.5 per cent annual pay increase from April, 1980.

For most working families with children, it is not really matter what I earn. If their children are in school and they live in a council house, their standard of living will be the same what their wage.

## Court told of men's contract killing scheme

By Richard Ford

John Childs, aged 41, who is serving life imprisonment after pleading guilty to six murders, told a jury at the Central Criminal Court yesterday that he and two other men made a deal to go to business as contract killers, with one of them acting as agent, after completing a "perfect murder".

Mr Childs, the chief prosecution witness in the case, in which four men are charged with murders, told of the planning of murder, the actual killings, and the disposal of the bodies.

During his four hours of evidence, given in calm voice, he looked only once at the four men sitting in the dock. The jury of 10 men and two women were shown a Sten gun, a Webley .43, a diver's knife and two firemen's axes which prosecution alleges were used in the murders, and a saw and mallet claimed to have been used in the disposal of the bodies.

Mr Childs said that a contract was taken out by an enemy of Mr George Brett, a haulage contractor, because there had been a fight between the two men. Previously he and two others had killed the case with which Mr Terence Eves, their first victim, had disappeared. "MacKenney voiced the opinion that he would not mind killing for a couple of grand," Mr Childs said. "He was willing to do all the arranging for us, out as our agent to kill people by contracts. He was to act as a front for us."

Mr Thompson to kill Mr Brett, although that was later reduced

by £200 because he had to supply them with a Sten gun and 200 rounds of ammunition. Dressed in a business suit and black homburg, Mr Childs said he was told by Brett, on the pretext that he wanted some haulage work done, to go with him to a factory in Heydon Road, Dagenham.

Mr Brett went with his son, and was shot in the back after he arrived. "There was a second shot a few seconds later. Brett was lying curled up on the floor and the boy was standing in front of me holding a large teddy bear."

"He just stood rigid looking. I grabbed hold of him to stop going to his father and finding out he was dead. Then MacKenney shot his father again, went over to me and shot the rear of my head as I held him in my arms."

Both bodies were then taken to Mr Childs' council flat in Poplar where they were dismembered and burnt over the weekend.

Earlier he had described how they decided to kill Mr Eves because Mr Pinfold wanted to take over his business. Mr MacKenney and Mr Childs were to get 100 a week each as a reward for killing him. Various ideas to kill Mr Eves were discussed but eventually it was decided to kill him in the factory. Mr Pinfold suggested that they buy a butcher's mincing machine and turn the body into mince.

Mr MacKenney hit Mr Eves on the head many times with a rubber hydraulic high pressure hose with two large nuts on each end. "In response to MacKenney's plea for assistance

I smashed Eves twice in the face with a hammer and it slowed him down considerably. He was thrown to the floor and MacKenney jumped on his chest and started hitting Eves in the face with the end of the hammer."

"He said 'Smash him' so I hit him as hard as I could. Eves was barely conscious, his legs were twitching and MacKenney had a piece of rope wrapped round his wrist which he circled around his neck and strangled Eves."

They then diluted with water the blood that was everywhere and tried to clean up, although the following morning Mr Childs was still worried that if the police came and put a handkerchief on one of the walls it would come up pink with blood. Mr Pinfold eventually offered them with five gallons of sulphuric acid to clear up any traces of the murder.

At Mr Childs' flat a spare room had been turned into "the mincing room" where they were to dispose of Mr Eves' body.

When the machine jammed MacKenney started to put parts of the body down the lavatory. Childs said they decided to burn the body in the grate.

Mr Robert Brown died, according to Mr Childs, because he had entered the factory, where he used to sleep, during the murder of Mr Eves and they thought he knew too much. He was shot a number of times, punched, stabbed, backed with firemen's axes and finally stabbed with a knife.

After the shots had been fired Mr Brown had got up and

started fighting with Mr MacKenney. "I picked up a fireman's axe, got hold of Brown's wrist and smashed the axe on his head. This did not hurt him."

He was then taken to the lavatory, where he was strangled with a rope. Mr MacKenney stabbed him. Mr Childs got a swordstick and stabbed Mr Brown in the stomach and in the heart. The body was put in a bath, cut up, buried in the ashtray, scattered on Westland Road.

For Mr Frederick Sherwood, their next victim, Mr Childs said that he and Mr MacKenney were to be paid £2,000 each in instalments.

Mr Childs, acting as a prospective purchaser of a car, Mr Sherwood was selling, persuaded him to come to Mr MacKenney's bungalow, adjacent to the factory in Dagenham. He was offered a cup of tea, sat down and was offered a drink. I gave him the money to count and as he was counting he was shot through the head."

The accused and the charges against them are: Robert Brown, aged 40, of Heydon Road, Dagenham, Essex, who is charged with the murder of George Brett, aged 41, on January 1, 1975, at Heydon Road, Dagenham, Essex; and the murder of Terence Eves, aged 43, on January 1, 1975, at Heydon Road, Dagenham, Essex; and the murder of Robert Brown, aged 40, on January 1, 1975, at Heydon Road, Dagenham, Essex.

The case continues today.

## Ex-diver awarded £48,337

Mr Daniel Stokes, a former Royal Marine commando who was trapped 240ft under the North Sea in a diving bell with a dead companion, was awarded £48,337 damages in the High Court in London yesterday.

Mr Stokes, aged 36, of Derby, had been left with a phobia about diving bells as a result of the incident.

He and Mr Peter Kelly had been lowered to the sea bed in the Norwegian boat of the North Sea Oil Fields in August, 1974. They turned on a supply of oxygen and helium, used for breathing at great depths, but it contained lethal pure helium.

Mr Kelly was breathing through a full-face mask, was killed. Mr Stokes survived because he was wearing a half-mask and was able to send alarm call before becoming unconscious. The bell was pulled back to the surface in time to save his life.

Mr Stokes, now a 5 ft 6 in. man, said he had been having to give up diving "was my life", he said. His wife, Margaret, expressed relief that his diving career was now over.

The damages award, including interest, was against Stokes's former employer, Northern Divers Ltd, a B based company which ceased trading, and Gas Equipment Ltd, of The Ma Ashby St Ledgers, Northamptonshire, who supplied the used for breathing in the bell. Both had admitted liability.



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## Professor Barnard intends heart and lung transplant

By Annabel Ferriman

Health Services Correspondent  
Professor Christian Barnard, who carried out the world's first heart transplant, said yesterday that doctors did not know any more about successful transplantation now than they did when the operations began 13 years ago.

He was moving into two new areas: transplanting hearts into children who had congenital heart defects and providing joint heart and lung transplants. He and his colleagues had perfected a technique for carrying out joint lung and heart transplants and were waiting for suitable patients.

But, he told a meeting in London of the Medical Journalists Association, doctors were no better at diagnosing the moment of death, at telling whether a donor's heart would suit the recipient, or at treating rejection.

Professor Barnard, who since 1967 has carried out transplants on 35 patients, 19 of whom are still alive, said that the success rate had improved only because doctors had become more selective in those they chose for transplants.

Mr Louis Washansky and Dr Philip Blalberg, his first two patients, were older and sicker when they were given their new hearts, than any heart transplant patients selected today.

"We have been forced by criticism to become more selective and that has been the most important factor in producing better results. You have forced us to have better results but not to help patients more."

The only two advances had been the use of biopsies to detect rejection in transplants and heart and the development of heterotopic or "piggy-back" transplants, in which a patient given a new heart did not have his old heart taken away.

Heterotopic transplants, which had a survival rate of 62 per cent after one year, were useful in that the slight functioning left in a patient's old heart sometimes helped to tide him over a period of rejection.

Professor Barnard, who confessed that he thought the best way to die was by a heart attack because it was quick and clean, said he had stopped using babies in transplants because of criticism from animal lovers.

## Suspended term for ex-PC over driving deaths

A former policeman, whose reckless driving caused the deaths of two teenage girls, was given a suspended jail sentence yesterday after a court heard of his remorse.

Alistair McCullough, aged 22, of Cuckfield Drive, Halesowen, West Midlands, said in a statement to police after the fatal road crash: "I cannot find words adequate to describe my feelings of grief and despair over the deaths."

He was given a four-month prison sentence, suspended for two years, fined £500, and banned from driving for four years, at Hereford Crown Court, Warwickshire.

Mr McCullough had pleaded guilty to causing the deaths by reckless driving of Annabel Grainger and Leigh Fortnum, both aged 16, in Hagley Road, Edgbaston, Birmingham, on September 28, 1979.

Both girls were passengers in the rear of a Ford Capri, driven by Mr McCullough. Mr McCullough told the disastrous and tragic consequence arose because he was travelling far too fast.



## HOME NEWS

Lower-paid  
tuck  
a poverty  
plateau'

By Marcel Heskins  
Legal Correspondent

Only one quarter of defence lawyers on probation charges reached their trials without having earlier made damaging admissions to the police, a study published today says.

In the great majority of cases, however, statements by suspects after police interrogation contributed little to the prosecution case.

In one-fifth of cases, the exclusion of the defendant's statement would seriously have weakened the prosecution, and in the case would either not have gone ahead or there would have been a conviction.

The study, conducted for the Royal Commission on Criminal Procedure by Dr John Peacock and Dr Michael McConville, both of Birmingham University, is based on 1,000 contested and uncontested cases in Birmingham Crown Court and in 476 cases at Crown courts in London.

The researchers had access to all the pre-trial documents, including the police's assessment of the relative importance of confession evidence to the trial.

Fewer than one in 40 defendants in Birmingham, and one in 20 in London, who had made a written statement to the police, were acquitted at the trial.

The great majority who had made statements pleaded guilty. The authors concluded that the decision to rely on confession evidence made it essential that a confession should be obtained in circumstances which would remove uncertainty about its reliability and voluntariness.

They found "considerable uncertainty" about the way the police interrogated suspects. "It is in our view in the interests of justice (to police officers as well as to suspects) that doubts about the reliability of the evidence of police interrogation be allayed."

The Royal Commission on Criminal Procedure, which is expected to report at the end of the year, has decided to recommend the abolition of the judges' rules governing police questioning and to have instead a detailed law setting out exactly what the police are required to do when interrogating suspects.

Confessions in Crown Court trials. Research Study No. 5. Royal Commission on Criminal Procedure, Stationery Office, £3.

**£861,000 pools win by former police sergeant**

Mr Joseph Fryer, a former police sergeant, yesterday collected more than £850,000 on Littlewoods Pools, the season's largest win.

His wife, Mary, was told by a runner during the summer that she would win a lot of money and buy a new house.

The couple, who come from Loughborough, North Leicestershire, were presented with their £861,742.95 prize by Mr. Terry Saville, the winner in London yesterday.

After thousands of miles behind the wheel of a Northumbria police patrol car, Mr Fryer, aged 55, has spent the last few years as transport manager for a local firm, he has decided to retire at the weekend.

"Now," he said, "I will forget all thoughts of another job. This is fantastic."

**Identical faults in pipe welds, but no radiation hazard**

**Third nuclear station shut by leak**

By Pearce Wright  
Science Editor

A nuclear power station in Berkeley, Gloucestershire, has been closed because of a leak in the gas cooling system. It is the third of nine first-generation Magnox nuclear power stations built for the Central Electricity Generating Board to be closed by the fault this year.

The Berkeley closure will add about £900,000 a week to the cost of electricity supplies, maintained by switching to other stations. There is no threat to the continuation of supplies because the board has an excess of generating capacity in its 132 power stations.

The leak was found during a routine inspection with new equipment for locating escaping gas from flaws smaller than a pin-hole. After the fault in the second reactor at Bradwell was found in February, calls were made for a survey of other Magnox stations at Hinkley Point, Sizewell, Oldbury, Wylfa, and Bursledon.

Estimates by the board indicated that until the closures, the Magnox stations were last year producing the cheapest electricity in the country, at 1.3p a unit compared with 1.56p for coal and 1.93p for oil-fired stations.

Windscale, Interpret: Professor Keith Boddy, head of the Northern Regional Medical Physics Department in Newcastle, has been appointed independent public consultant for the Windscale nuclear reprocessing plant in Cumbria.

He will act as a lay interpreter of facts and figures emanating from the site.

The appointment follows a recommendation in the Windscale inquiry report by Mr Justice Parker, which called for an independent and authoritative person to explain all results of monitoring done at the plant for anyone who requested it.

**Unions criticize plan for special needs**

By Our Education Correspondent

Two teachers' unions yesterday criticized the Government's proposals for changes in the law on the education of handicapped children and others with special needs.

The Secondary Heads Association, representing most heads of secondary schools, said that while it welcomed the proposal to extend the categories of need, it was worried about how the children in them would be helped in practice.

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The White Paper, published in August, referred to "recorded" children, roughly those who at present are deemed to have special educational needs; and "unrecorded" children, those who by and large would fall into the proposed new categories of need. The association said that distinction was likely to lead to very little being offered to the latter group.

It regretted the Government's decision to set aside the Warnock committee's proposal for a national advisory committee on children with special needs. "We feel that without national recognition and monitoring, the needs of children will not be adequately met," it said.

The National Association of Teachers in Further and Higher Education described the proposals as "inadequate, callous, and cynical" particularly in regard to its claim that in view of the economic climate it could do nothing to improve the present wholly unsatisfactory provision for young people with special needs within further and higher education.

A survey by the association two years ago had shown that few colleges made special provision for handicapped students. The Government proposes to introduce a Bill on the education of children with special needs later this year or early next year.

**Cornish nationalist resigns**

By Paul Holmes, a leading figure in Mebyon Kernow, the Cornish nationalist party, has resigned from the party, claiming Trotskyist infiltration.

Mr Holmes said: "Left-wing activists now in the movement are putting their own political views before those of Cornish people and Mebyon Kernow policy."

Mr Cyril Dungey, the party's chairman, who was one of three other branch officers to resign from their posts but not from the movement, said: "My resignation is out of sympathy for Mr Holmes."

**Church members 'not manipulated'**

By David Nicholson-Lord

A suggestion that the executive of the Unification Church was aware that the church was a fraud and a sham but manipulated its sincere rank-and-file membership was described as completely untrue in the High Court yesterday.

Mr Dennis Orme, spiritual director of the church in Britain, also denied that members raising funds for the church concealed the organization they represented. "We are very proud of our association and what it stands for," he said.

Mr Orme was being cross-examined by Lord Rawlinson of Ewell QC, for Associated Newspapers, in a libel action brought by the church over an article in the Daily Mail. Members of the church are known as "Moonies" because of their adherence to Sun Myung Moon, a South Korean whom they regard as the second messiah.

Mr Orme agreed that Mr Moon lived with his second wife and about 10 children in a 25-room house in America which cost \$625,000. He also agreed that Mr Moon had the use of two yachts and two limousines.

He said it was a gross injustice to single out one short period in the life of Mr Moon, who was aged 60 and had spent most of his life in conditions of hardship, including a spell in a North Korean concentration camp.

Mr Orme said the church distributed food, money and clothing on a wide scale and regarded itself as a vitally important charity. Some of its beliefs, including its serious attitude to marriage, might seem strange in the modern world, but that was unavoidable.

He agreed that Mr Moon might have matched 25 couples for marriage in eight hours, some of whom might not have known each other before, but that came only after long preparations and discussion and no one was married if they did not wish to be.

The hearing continues today.

**Payment of domestic rates by credit card urged**

By Christopher Warman  
Local Government Correspondent

Householders should be able to pay their rates by credit card, Mr Stuart Page, former senior lecturer in public administration, Strathclyde University, said yesterday.

Speaking at the Rating and Valuation Association conference in Llandudno, he argued that the rates were the most suitable tax for local government in Britain, but acknowledged that collection of the tax was one of the pressures on the citizen today in discharging his debts.

Taxing authorities must have stringent methods of recovery and insist a discipline into the settlement of the tax due to them, he said.

## Mr Cadbury to meet accountants

By Philip Robinson  
Financial Staff

Mr Peter Cadbury, the deposed chairman of Westward Television, is to meet representatives of the accountants Price Waterhouse today to answer questions about their report on the finances of the television station.

The accountants were called in by Lord Harris of Greenwich, Westward's chairman, two weeks after he had led a boardroom struggle to remove Mr Cadbury in July.

Mr Andrew Kerman, Mr Cadbury's solicitor, said yesterday: "Mr Cadbury has quite a few things to say about the report and answers for all the questions raised."

The Independent Broadcasting Authority (IBA) will be discussing whether the management changes proposed at Westward breach the terms of the original contract.

The IBA asked for information on management changes two weeks ago and received replies from Lord Harris and Mr Cadbury on Monday.

The IBA favours a compromise. Mr Kerman said: "I told the other side last week that we would be prepared to consider any workable solution, but we have not heard from them."

Mr Cadbury intends to oust Lord Harris at an extraordinary shareholders' meeting in Plymouth next Friday. He commands about 60 per cent of the voting shares which he cast to vote out Lord Harris and five other directors on September 10, but that meeting was deemed invalid by the Westward board.

# KLM's pipeline to the Gulf flows seven days a week.

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Bristol  
Norwich  
Manchester  
Leeds/Bradford  
Glasgow  
Aberdeen  
Edinburgh  
Dublin

## TUESDAY

Heathrow  
Gatwick  
Birmingham  
Norwich  
Manchester  
Hull  
Shannon

## WEDNESDAY

Heathrow  
Gatwick  
Southampton  
Birmingham  
East Midlands  
Cardiff  
Bristol  
Norwich  
Manchester  
Leeds/Bradford  
Glasgow  
Aberdeen  
Edinburgh  
Dublin

## THURSDAY

Heathrow  
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Southampton  
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Norwich  
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Leeds/Bradford  
Glasgow  
Aberdeen  
Edinburgh  
Dublin

## FRIDAY

Heathrow  
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Southampton  
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Cardiff  
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Norwich  
Manchester  
Leeds/Bradford  
Glasgow  
Aberdeen  
Edinburgh  
Dublin

## SATURDAY

Heathrow  
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East Midlands  
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Manchester  
Leeds/Bradford  
Glasgow  
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## SUNDAY

Heathrow  
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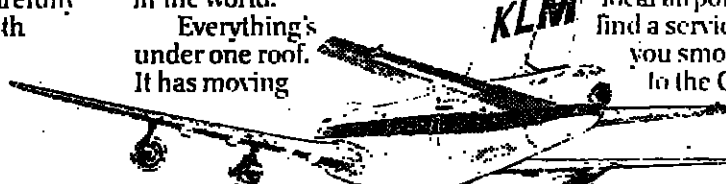
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walkways. Convenient transfer desks. Excellent duty-free facilities. Everything to make changing planes as pleasant as possible.

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# Do small businesses really matter?

Support for small businesses is vital if we are able to bring an economic revival to our inner areas.

70% of Southwark's workforce are employed in small businesses.

Southwark has pioneered a unique industrial fund which brings public and private sector interests together in helping small businesses through their short term problems to long term viability. In two years Southwark has been able to assist 150 firms and thus create or preserve over 2,000 jobs.

The House of Lords has begun detailed consideration of the government's Local Planning and Land Bill (No. 2). The Bill seriously erodes the council's ability to use its industrial fund.

An amendment has been tabled to the Bill which would ensure this vital work can continue, not only for Southwark, but for all like minded authorities.

We welcome this amendment and look to Parliament to approve it and so continue this vital help to small businesses.

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Household space diminished, but costs have steadily increased. So the house shown is being altered (not at her expense) to provide her with a self-contained flat, free from future heavy expenses.

How is this possible?  
The National Charity, Help the Aged, could convert one portion of the house into a modernised, and usually self-contained flat for your use for the rest of your life, or that of your spouse. By making your house over to the charity, you could also be relieved of the burden of rates, rent, and external repairs; and the portion of the house that you no longer need, converted for the use of retired people.

Send for full details, entirely without obligation. Please write to: Help the Aged, Room 24C, 32 Dover Street, London W1A 2AP.



## CONSERVATIVE PARTY CONFERENCE/BRIGHTON



Speakers at the rostrum yesterday. From left: Mrs Rosemary Brown, Mr Alan Freeman, Mr Peter Walker, Minister of Agriculture, and Sir Keith Joseph, Secretary of State for India

## Mr Prior says industrial relations law needs public and worker support to stick

The Government's main objective in its industrial relations policy must be to go at a pace acceptable to public opinion, to carry with it the support of the shop floor for what it is doing and in that way to make its changes in the law stick, Mr James Prior, Secretary of State for Employment, told the conference.

Calling for a national debate on the proper function and limits of trade union activity, Mr Prior, who received a standing ovation in which Mrs Thatcher joined, appealed to the United Kingdom's 13 million trade unionists to get involved in their trade unions. The money was there for postal ballots.

Emphasizing that the Government meant to stick to its approach because they wanted it to stick, Mr Prior contended, in reply to critics who considered the Government had not done enough to curb trade unions, that it would not make much sense to talk as though they were taking part in the Charge of the Light Brigade.

"We are not Wedgie Benn in Blue," he commented. The Government was not afraid to stick to the job and see it through.

The debate was opened by Mr William Adams (West Nottingham) who moved: "This conference should view the role of the trade union movement in the world of this country. It therefore urges the Government to continue to review the law as to bring the law closer to the views of the majority of the people of this country."

Mr Adams said it might be argued that too little had been done to bring the unions within the structure of the law, but to those who cheered he said:

Reports by Alan Wood, Robert Gordon, Goodwin and Richard Evans of our Parliamentary Staff.

They should remember the 1971 Industrial Relations Act when they tried to do too much, too fast, and they had not achieved lasting industrial peace it would be a slow and difficult process.

Mr Stephen Moss (chairman, National Association of Conservative Graduates) said one of the surprising things had been the vast attitude of the unions to the reform.

The unions had said that reform would lead to confrontation but the first steps of reform had been taken and they had not. However, people wanted more action and they wanted it now.

Mr Robert Holliday (Maldon and Rochford) said that the reform of the law was an invitation to Mr Prior to talk and do nothing. There were elected to make changes and one of those changes was to redress the balance of power in industrial relations.

Mr Peter Young (chairman, Federation of Conservative Students) said it was not the role of the unions to advise the Government. It was not their role to be consulted by the Government. They should be talking about reviewing the privileges of the unions, but ending them.

Mr Les Kirby (West Midlands YCS) said the elected Government in the name of the world of this country. It therefore urges the Government to continue to review the law as to bring the law closer to the views of the majority of the people of this country."

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## Volunteers seen as partners of NHS

There had to be a partnership between volunteers and statutory bodies in caring for the sick, the elderly and the disadvantaged, Mr Patrick Jenkin, Secretary of State for Social Services, said when replying to a debate on health and social security.

Mr Gordon Hunter, on behalf of the National Advisory Committee, successfully moved that the conference, recognizing the valuable contribution made by the care of the sick, the disadvantaged and the elderly, urged the Government and local authorities to support the continuation of these efforts and to provide support wherever possible.

She said the time was ripe for a great upsurge in voluntary aid. Voluntary organizations must be encouraged in their fund raising. We must develop and foster an improved understanding between the voluntary helper and the statutory authority. It was no use initiating schemes in pursuit of a number of unmet needs; consultations had first taken place to pinpoint the area of need.

Mr Andrew Paterson (SW Staffs) said that but for the skill of the surgeons and the help of the volunteers, the British Heart Foundation would not be addressing the conference.

Mr David Tod (Conservative Medical Society) asked why some nurses could not be allowed to work in the community. He said: "We do not need doctors to sign and most of the time they do it without thinking."

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## Day of the apples and a walkab

Carefully refusing to take a much for the cameras, "I don't think it would make a good picture," Mrs Thatcher announced that Cox's were far better than imported apples and were the best grown.

Has everyone got the message? she shouted as her aides struggled frantically to clear a space around her. And you can still buy them in pounds not kilograms," she added.

Whatever else may be said of the Prime Minister, she can certainly cheer the birds out of the trees on occasions such as this. Signaling books here, clapping up the faithful there, shaking hands, exchanging jokes, materially anxious about Mark's car racing or Carol's bottom drawer, she was undoubtedly the success story of the day.

At a sweet stall she signed a package of Thatcher's jokes and a package of Thatcher's jokes and a package of Thatcher's jokes.

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## Exports belie half-truths on EEC, Mr Heath says

The British people must not be misled by the half-truths or downright lies about the Common Market at the Labour Party conference last week, Mr Edward Heath, last Conservative Prime Minister, told the Conservative Group for Europe.

He said that seldom in the history of the Commonwealth was the progress so great as in the Common Market. He said that the Labour Party voted to declare UDI from Europe.

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## Right to live in Britain to be set out

The proposals in the Government's White Paper on nationality, which will be set out in legislation, would establish a clear-cut British citizenship for those who clearly belong to the United Kingdom, and would provide for all who held the right of abode in this country.

Mr Timothy Raison (Minister of State, Home Office) said that the proposals would be set out in legislation, which would establish a clear-cut British citizenship for those who clearly belong to the United Kingdom, and would provide for all who held the right of abode in this country.

## A message of hope for industry

While bringing what he called a message of hope, Sir Keith Joseph, Secretary of State for Industry, told the conference that changing conditions in industry would be a slow process, but that the Government was determined to do what it could to help industry.

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## Unconventional attitudes and attire

Unconventional attire, at least for a Tory conference, distinguished the Conservative Party speakers at a Labour Party conference last week, Mr David Milburn, Secretary of State for Employment, said.

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## Scheme to take school leavers off job market

Conservative ministers yesterday launched a scheme to combat unemployment by taking school leavers aged 16 to 18 off the job market, Mr James Prior, Secretary of State for Employment, said.

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## Repatriation scheme is criticized

Speeches such as the one made by Mr Gordon Hunter, Secretary of State for Social Services, on Tuesday evening to the Conservative Party conference, were criticized by the Monday Club.

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## 'Buy British' campaigns for grocery chains

Most of the big grocery chains are to launch strong "Buy British" campaigns, Mr Peter Walker, Minister of Agriculture, said.

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## Water charges proposals promised for next week

A consultation paper is to be published by the Government next week setting out various options for charging for water, Mr Peter Walker, Minister of Agriculture, said.

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## Economic policy's flexibility emphasized

Declaring that monetarism was not an end in itself, Mr Norman St John-Stevas, Leader of the House, yesterday set out to emphasize the "intrinsic flexibility" of the Government's economic policy.

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## Hospital lists sh

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## Constitutional reform is advocated

Mr Mervyn Davies, Secretary of State for Wales, said that the Government was considering constitutional reform.

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## WEST EUROPE

## How West Germans rejected left and right

From Patricia Clough, Bonn, Oct. 8

The people who really count in West German elections are the four to five million, many of them middle-class, moderately well-educated, town-dwellers in their late 20s and early 30s.

These are the floating voters, 10 per cent or so of the electorate who are not yet fully attached to any established party and who can tip the political scales to the left or right.

Sunday these voters voted for the SPD, the Social Democratic Party, but when the ballot papers were counted it was found that the majority had opted for the smaller, more moderate Free Democratic Party (FDP).

This highly influential minority had decided to reward Helmut Schmidt, to remain chancellor but to keep his Social Democratic Party (SPD) partner, the FDP, in power. It was a clear warning that it will not have risky experiments with candidates like Herr Franz Josef Strauss, who has a controversial image and his own influence over the FDP.

Like a magnet among iron filings, the FDP drew voters in all quarters—both left and right. Unexpectedly, part of the gains came from the SPD, who wanted to keep a coalition but feared an SPD success which could strengthen their left wing.

Many of these SPD voters, analysts say, split their double vote, supporting their local SPD candidate with the first vote, and the FDP with the second, optional system vote. It is a latter-day tactic which decides the active weight of the parties in parliament.

At the same time the FDP was heavily from moderate Christian Democrats who did not bring themselves to vote for Herr Strauss. It attracted many first-time voters and seemed to have been rewarded being the only party to fight clean, fair and reasoned campaign.

The FDP gains—it jumped 7.9 per cent to 10.6 per cent—will also be a source of disquiet. Herr Günter Rühlken, the party secretary, said they will try to keep these voters for good.

Few analysts believe that the FDP can maintain its present strength. "I know one party which is going to lose the 1984 election and that is the FDP," said a Christian Democrat paid ally for choosing Herr Strauss candidate. The SPD, Strauss knew, as it is called, is a sister jargon, lost them about 100,000 votes to the coalition.

Although they made slight gains—42.6 to 42.9 per cent—SPD failed to live up to its expectations after recent election success. It is clear that if it had not been for Herr Schmidt they would be back in opposition. It also appears likely that Herr Schmidt were to go, the SPD would be reluctant to continue the coalition.

Last Schmidt term? page 14

## Swiss to buy Rapier

Berne, Oct. 8.—The Swiss House today voted by 5 to 6 to spend a record 50m Swiss francs (£400m) on this year's including 22m francs (£300m) on the British Rapier anti-aircraft missile system. Forty-five Socialist deputies abstained in protest at the spending when funds for social services were scarce.

## Political rivalries make government an uphill task

## Italy's factions go back to Pompeii

Queen begins her first state visit to Italy for 20 years on October 14. In the third of a tripartite, Peter Nichols, Rome Correspondent, looks how the country has changed in the centre of the ruins of Pompeii, where the Queen will spend two hours.

A thing which was used for hiding, mainly for local government posts, before Vesuvius erupted and destroyed the city 1,600 years ago.

Theoretically Pompeii was the democratic but according to Professor Stefano de Caro, director of the excavations, there was a great deal of political friction. "When Augustus, Emperor, for instance, the partisan faction in Pompeii was strongly favoured."

The fall of the last Italian government offered one of the most striking new facts in Italian politics still concerns the Socialists. Factionalism in the party was one of the reasons for the fall of the last government because some Socialists still disagreed with the policy of alliance with the Christian Democrats installed by Signor Nenni and followed by the present Socialist leader, Signor Bettino Craxi.

This, too, looks like the past coming back to confound the present. But there is a new element. The Socialists remain the third largest party after the Christian Democrats and the communists, and remain the one party with a role to play that is more weighty than the number of its seats in Parliament would normally justify.



Thousands of Frenchmen march through the streets of Paris to express outrage at the antisemitic attacks

## Thousands join French Jews in protest march

From Ian Murray, Paris, Oct. 8

Not since the Liberation has Paris seen anything like it—a huge march representative of the entire nation. Police admit they lost count of how many marchers there were, but at least 200,000 joined the traditional protest route from the Place de la Nation to the Place de la République last night.

The unity and numbers were both achieved by the bomb which last Friday evening failed by minutes to slaughter dozens, perhaps hundreds, of Jews, outside a synagogue in the sixteenth arrondissement.

In fact only four people died, one of them Jewish, but as M. Raymond Barre, the Prime Minister, told the National Assembly today, those responsible for the attack had not only struck France to the heart, they had also wanted to reach its soul.

Police inquiries into the bombing have come up with

only one clue. Of all the vehicles in the Rue Copernic which were blasted by the bomb, the owners of all but one have come forward to claim compensation. The exception is a motorcycle, so wrecked by the explosion that it must have been very near the bomb, if indeed it was not carrying it.

By tracing the engine number—the only identification mark still legible—the police have been able to identify the owner. Inquiries are still in the early stages, but the police say it could be that they were on a false scent in presuming the bombing was the work of neo-Nazis.

Be that as it may, the near hysteria which has swept the country since the bomb exploded shows how very near the skin are French susceptibilities to the charge of anti-Semitism.

The fact that the Jewish community in France, which is the fourth largest Jewish community in the world, is well

integrated in the establishment has long been manifest. At the same time M. Barre himself, in an unguarded moment, showed that the average Frenchman still regards Jews as a race apart when he protested that the bomb had killed "innocent French people" when it had really been meant for Jews.

It was to paper over such cracks in French unity that last night's march was organized. It rapidly became a demonstration that no credible political group could refuse to attend.

But President Giscard d'Estaing, typically striving to rise above politics, has issued instructions to all prefects to call a meeting next Friday of leaders of different cults, unions and associations "who fight for tolerance and against racism" to discuss security problems.

This one-day course in tolerance could well be given to National Assembly members to judge by the way they began abusing each other today after M. Barre's call for unity.

M. François Mitterrand, the Socialist leader, complained that the Government was always slow to prosecute the right, while the full weight of the security forces was turned out whenever there was trouble with the left.

M. Robert Ballanger, president of the Communist group, said the Government was responsible for the resurgence of Nazism in France. M. Claude Labbe, leader of the Gaullists, urged tougher security measures and he won much government applause for attacking M. Mitterrand's remarks.

It was left to M. Roger Chirac, for the Giscardians, to try to reestablish peace by urging members to stop shouting at each other.

M. Christian Bonnet, the Interior Minister, came in for the most abuse when he told the Assembly that the inquiry was continuing "in all directions, including one unexpected one". He savagely defended the police.

## Britain is offered 31.25pc fish share-out

From Michael Hornsby, Brussels, Oct. 8

British fishermen would be guaranteed a 31.25 per cent share of the six most important fish species caught in the EEC's collective 200-mile zone, under new proposals announced in Brussels by the European Commission. This improves very slightly on previous offers.

The proposed catch-share-out will be discussed by Mr. Peter Walker, the Minister of Agriculture, and his EEC colleagues in Luxembourg on October 28. It falls short of the 45 per cent of the total catch which the British fishing industry regards as the minimum acceptable.

All the signs are, however, that the British Government is prepared to settle for a catch share close to what the Commission is proposing provided that it can secure agreement on privileged, and in some cases exclusive, access for British fishermen to certain coastal waters.

The atmosphere in the long-running dispute over fisheries policy was much improved at the end of last month when ministers agreed on a range of technical measures to prevent over-fishing. The new unity in British-French relations should also make agreement easier.

None the less the argument over access will be tough. Britain's demand for exclusive rights within 12 miles of the coast, and predominant share of the fishing in some areas beyond that, still causes great difficulties for France and some other member states.

Under the Commission's proposals British vessels would be entitled to catch 309,034 tonnes of cod, haddock, whiting, plaice, sole and red fish out of the total 988,795 tonnes which the Commission considers EEC fishermen can catch.

The overall percentage share covers wide variations between species. Thus Britain would get roughly 68 per cent of the haddock catch, 32 per cent of whiting, 28 per cent of cod, 22 per cent of plaice, and 20 per cent of sole.

## OVERSEAS

## Polish Parliament grants itself even greater authority

Warsaw, Oct. 8.—The Polish Sejm (Parliament) granted itself more power today and brought back into the limelight an old political warrior who has spent nine years in disgrace.

It voted unanimously to take back responsibility for the Supreme Chamber of Control, a key accounting watchdog body. With seven abstentions, it also confirmed General Mieczyslaw Moczar, a former party chief of security and the armed forces, as the Chamber's head.

The meeting was also scheduled to study a socio-economic plan for 1981 and make changes among ministers and in the Council of State, the Parliament's executive body.

The Supreme Chamber of Control will now oversee all government officials as regards abuse of authority, corruption and errors, a member said.

He added that when the Chamber was controlled by the Council of Ministers it was under the thumb of the very bodies it was supposed to oversee. "Now it will perform its duties in complete sovereignty and independence."

Granting more power to the Supreme Chamber of Control and putting Parliament in control of it, which required a change of the constitution, fills two pledges made by party leaders last weekend. A Central

Committee meeting promised continuing purges of corrupt officials and more power to democratic organs.

The newspaper *Zycie Warszawy* said: "Today's session of the House will be a telling proof that this highest state organ will have its proper role and rank restored."

The presentation of the 1981 economic plan to Parliament at this time is a change from the days when it "joined the work on the preparation of plans only in the final stage", the newspaper said.

For the past nine years General Moczar's only job has been as head of the hitherto powerless Chamber of Control. He was replaced as security chief in 1971 by Mr Stanislaw Kanis, who four weeks ago succeeded Mr Edward Gierk as party chief.

General Moczar, who as Minister of the Interior ordered harsh security police action against student riots in 1968 with almost 3,000 arrests, is said to have amassed exhaustive files on corruption.

The Peasant Party and the Democratic Party, hitherto considered satellites of the Communist Party, will be allowed to hold their own meetings before parliamentary debates, the Polish news agency PAP reported.

## UPI news agency for sale

Cambridge, Massachusetts,

Oct. 8.—United Press International, the second-largest news service in the United States, told its subscribers yesterday that it was for sale.

The service, which has been owned by the E. W. Scripps family for 73 years, has caused concern because of its losses, estimated at least \$7m (about £2.9m) for 1980, and the resulting questions about its future.

to persuade publishers and broadcasters to become partners in the agency. But yesterday's announcement, at UPI's annual convention of editors, was the first public declaration that the company wanted to divest itself of UPI.

Mr. Roderick Beaton, president and chief executive of UPI, said later that E. W. Scripps would not abandon it. But a new ownership had to be found. The ideal option was some kind of industry ownership.—New York Times News Service.

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## Both side

# Both sides massing troops for battle

## Husain haven for Baghdad jets



















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Barbeque Night, T. Barnes,  
11 20--Horseanstown, N. Fisher,  
12 Haywood, Castle, S. Landon,  
13 Merchants Quay, J. R-rn,  
13-3 Bushy, S. L. Colway in Durham  
11-2 Daily, 8-1 Tree Warbler, 16-1 other

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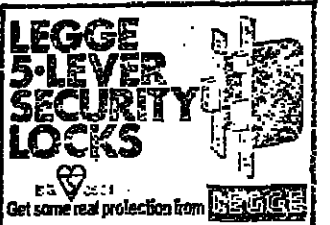






# THE TIMES

## BUSINESS NEWS



### EEC confusion on steel quota plan as Bonn asks for more discussions

From Peter Norman, Brussels, Oct 8

The European Commission's plan to impose a quota on steel production in 1981 has caused confusion among EEC member states. The Commission's proposal, which would limit production to 10.5 million tonnes, has been met with resistance from several countries, particularly Germany and France.

The German government, led by Chancellor Helmut Kohl, has expressed its dissatisfaction with the Commission's plan, arguing that it does not take into account the needs of the German steel industry. The French government, led by President Valéry Giscard d'Estaing, has also expressed its concerns, particularly regarding the impact of the quota on the French steel industry.

The Commission, led by President Jacques Delors, has defended its plan, arguing that it is necessary to ensure the long-term viability of the steel industry in Europe. It has also stated that the quota is a temporary measure, designed to address the current oversupply of steel in the market.

The confusion surrounding the quota plan has led to a series of discussions between the Commission and the member states. The Commission has offered to hold further discussions with the member states, but they have yet to agree to any changes to the plan.

The steel industry in Europe is currently facing a period of uncertainty, with many companies struggling to find a way forward. The quota plan, if implemented, could have a significant impact on the industry, and it is clear that there is a need for a more coordinated approach to the problem.

### Liquidity help for banks extended

By John Whitmore, Financial Correspondent

Bank of England assistance to the banking system, aimed at relieving reserve asset pressures and preventing a sharp rise in short-term interest rates, is to be extended at its present level until well into November.

The Bank said yesterday that its present £750m bill-edged sale and repurchase agreement with banks was to be allowed to run until November 17. It was due to end next Monday.

The Bank has already announced that a similar £500m facility is to be continued until November 7.

Although the scale and duration of official assistance to the banking system has caused unease among some market analysts this summer, the Bank maintains that such assistance is fully consistent with its general monetary stance.

While Tuesday's banking figures for September indicated a modest improvement in the reserve asset position, the official view is that there is a strong case for maintaining the present facilities for at least the next few weeks.

Quarterly VAT payments by manufacturing industry will drain further funds out of the banking system. In addition, the authorities are presumably counting on adding to their recent sales of government stock. Whether the authorities will have to extend the present facilities beyond November will depend on circumstances at the time. It may well be, however, that the banks are already substantial holders of assets that automatically move into the reserve asset category. In the second half of November, these include the Treasury Variable Rate Stock 1981 and Exchequer 121 per cent 1981. These stocks become eligible as reserve assets from November 17 and November 23 respectively.

Further reflection on Tuesday's September banking figures did nothing to help the gilt-edged market yesterday. With little prospect of an MLR reduction for several weeks yet, and with some £500m or so of "top" stock still overhanging the market, investors saw no reason to chase prices higher. They will now be keen to see this afternoon's figures for central government borrowing in September and a number of other key economic indicators due to be published next week.

### Motor trade surprised by surge in new sales

By Edward Townsend

Hours after the Mini Metro, the car which it is hoped will help to restore BL's fortunes, went on show to the public, a new set of figures for the car industry shows that the United Kingdom market could be on the upturn.

New car sales last month reached almost 130,000, the second highest September figure on record, and forced a hurried upward revision of the Society of Motor Manufacturers and Traders' forecast for the whole year to 1,510,000.

BL's market share crept up in September to 19.2 per cent, compared with 22.29 per cent a year earlier. For the nine months, however, the company's share was 17.45 per cent, against 20.32 per cent in the same period of 1979 and hopes of achieving a 20 per cent penetration for the year are fading.

On top 10 best selling models in the United Kingdom last month were led by Ford's Cortina, Escort and Fiesta.

At the start of the year, the society predicted that after the first nine months, sales would reach 1.7 million, the 1979 market would fall to 1.65 million. Sales reached high levels in the first three months, then slumped alarmingly, but now appear to be confounding the experts by rising again.

Last month's sales of 128,900 were 17.3 per cent higher than a year earlier. The latest September sales figure was in 1973 when 132,761 cars were sold.

The cumulative sales total for the first nine months of this year was 1,274,000, a drop of about 10 per cent on the comparable 1979 figure. With the introduction of the new Ford Escort and the Mini Metro, sales in the remaining three months of the year are forecast which puts final quarter sales at 257,000.

Imports last month captured 53.7 per cent of the market but over the nine months took 52.4 per cent compared with 53.0 per cent a year earlier.

The Japanese share fell to 11.5 per cent in September from an August figure of 12.7 per cent, reflecting the Japanese producers' cut back on United Kingdom sales in an attempt to remain within the 10.1 per cent limit set by the terms of their "prudent" United Kingdom marketing policies.

The Japanese share in the nine months, however, remained at 12.6 per cent, implying that in the final three months of the year, sales will have to be reduced even more.

US plea for curbs, page 15

### President attacks high US interest rates

From Frank Vogl, Washington, Oct 8

Present economic conditions do not justify the high interest rates which banks are charging, President Carter said today. He added that he was committed to lower rates. But there is no evidence yet that the Federal Reserve Board is being influenced by White House pressure.

The President made his remarks on signing a new housing act at the White House. He announced that a task force was being created to look at ways of securing a higher flow of mortgage money.

Yesterday, Citibank in New York raised its mortgage rate by 1 per cent to 15 per cent but, short-term rates are softening and several banks have reduced the rate they charge stockbrokers to 13 per cent from 15 per cent.

Federal funds were trading today around 12.1 per cent and the central bank appears content to see this rate hold. The markets believe that short-term rates are either at, or very close to their peaks for the time being.

Mr. Alan Greenspan, an independent consultant advising Mr. Ronald Reagan, predicted that prime rates would be below 12 per cent by the end of the year and other economists are making similar forecasts.

Citibank economists are pointing out that the Fed may still have difficulty in attaining its money supply targets for this year after the sharp rises in August and most of September.

To attain its goal, "they require the Fed to withdraw further reserves from the banks, keeping upward pressure on the Fed funds rate," the bank's economists say in a newsletter.

Economic Notebook, page 19

### Restructured British Shipbuilders aims at profit in four years in rigorous economy programme

By Donald McIntyre

British Shipbuilders which, in the last financial year lost £109m, has told the Government an intended response to a profit within four years.

Mr Robert Atkinson, the chairman, disclosed this yesterday when he announced a new structure for the corporation of five divisions, including the creation of a strengthened off-shore operation based in Glasgow.

Mr Atkinson has coupled the management shakeup with an economy drive to improve productivity, tighten purchasing policy, and reduce "extraneous" expenditure on the subsidiaries.

The corporation is believed to have been discussing a £60m increase on the current borrowing limit of £120m a year. Mr Atkinson refused to confirm a figure, but said he expected a reply from the Government within a fortnight.

He said he expected the corporation to show that it was viable market within two years as the world market showed an upturn and to make a profit within four years.

Stressing the need for an improvement in performance, he added: "There is not much time left to be able to show this, or any other government we know our business, and can reach viability within a reasonable time."

Mr Atkinson gave warning of tighter financial control on individual yards, and said: "It is not our intention to tolerate indefinitely failure to achieve a budget." And he declared that yard managing directors were being "put on a hook, and a barbed one."

"If there is no hope of a yard achieving profitability, we have to question the existence of that establishment or the ability of the management," he said.

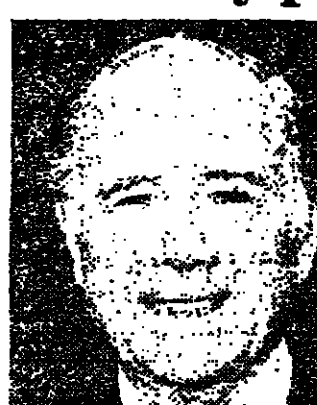
The off-shore division—whose chief executive like those in the other four will report directly to the chairman—will be based at Scott Lithgow where a £60m Emergency Support Vessel is being built for BP.

Mr John Parker, the corporation's deputy chief executive, will head the division until a new chief executive with North Sea oil field experience can be found to replace him.

Mr Atkinson said "North Sea offshore technology has at least 40 years of further work and we need to be more committed and seen to be so by the oil specialists."

Mr John Steele, chairman of Swan Hunter, will also head a new division aimed at tightening the corporation's purchasing policy. Headquarters savings, partly achieved through the move to Newcastle are already expected to cut costs by £5m, and BS was also reviewing canteen prices.

Within the merchant shipbuilding division Mr Derek Kimber, chairman of Austin & Pickersall, will be in charge of medium and large yards. Mr Jim Venus an advisor with BS will be responsible for small yards, while Mr Steele will be in charge of both Swan Hunter and Cammell Laird, builders of warships and merchant vessels.



Mr Robert Atkinson: Tightening financial controls.

Mr John Parker: Temporary head for offshore division.

### European producers resigned to controls

From Peter Hill, Brussels, Oct 8

European steelmakers seem resigned to accepting compulsory controls on production and delivery, until the middle of next year.

Members of Eurofer, the European Community's steelmakers' organisation, held a special meeting here today after most members endorsed the Commission's call to invoke provisions of the European Coal and Steel Community treaty at the Council of Ministers' meeting in Luxembourg earlier this week.

This is an unprecedented effort to restore order among the steelmakers to avert the crisis in the industry and end the price war.

After the one-hour meeting, Mr. Emmanuel Tesch, chairman of Eurofer, said: "We have to wait the outcome of the political decision but Eurofer will provide the utmost assistance and cooperation to the Commission to find an adequate solution."

Even if the producers could agree to last minute voluntary agreements, the rough controls sought by the Commission would largely be enforced. But most steelmakers expect that the Commission will formally introduce controls despite the confusion caused by the West German opposition to the proposals.

### Rank expects decision on Toshiba link soon

By Catherine Gunn

The Rank Organisation expects a decision on Toshiba on the future of Rank-Toshiba, their joint loss-making West Country television set manufacturing venture, next week. Rank offered 70 per cent stake to Toshiba nearly two weeks ago.

Mr Shojiichi Saba, Toshiba's president, meets Mr Harry Smith, Rank's chairman, today, in a "courtesy call" that is expected to include some discussion of the future of the Toshiba's top directors are in Britain this week for the listing of their shares in which £109m and will be substantially larger this year. After a study of the European markets the partners decided that Rank-Toshiba was not viable in its present form.

A strong pound, continuing inflation and higher interest rates have all affected the original projections, while over-supply in Europe led to tough competition.

The options open to Toshiba, which produced £5m of the £10m start-up cost, are to buy out Rank and continue manufacture, perhaps on a reduced scale; to sell the whole concern to a third party or to close the company down, with 2,700 redundant staff, Devon and Cornwall. It appears reluctant to take that course.

The future of RRI, Rank's distribution and service company, which handles Rank-Toshiba's output, also depends on Toshiba's decision.

It made profits of £800,000 in 1979 but is probably going into losses this year. Ranks plans to sell it, possibly to Toshiba, but if there are no takers it too may close.

Rank estimates the combined closure costs and trading losses for the two businesses could total £25m.

### Ford chief's output warning to Halewood workers

By Peter Waymark

The 13,000 Ford workers at the Halewood plant on Mersey, side were given a blunt warning, yesterday, that no new models would be added there in the future unless there was a dramatic improvement in productivity.

Mr Sam Toy, the new chairman of Ford of Britain, said production of the new Escort, which went on sale in September, was running at only 60 to 65 per cent of schedule.

He went on: "The fellows are just not cooperating. Unless they produce more in line with the schedules, the Escort could be the last new motor car we launch at Halewood."

Mr Toy said attempts to introduce greater efficiency were being frustrated by the workers' inertia. He rejected union claims that the difficulties were being caused by new machinery.

"We have a dealer body out there successfully selling the Escort and we cannot deliver. It is vital to have better production out of Halewood and we have invested to get it—£240m in three years."

Production schedules for the Escort were modest compared with those at Saarlouis in West Germany, where the car was also built, Mr Toy said. Saarlouis was generally reckoned to be twice as productive as Ford's British plants.

Output of the Escort at Halewood has been running at only 250 to 300 a day against the target of 450 to 500, and Mr Toy said they might have to consider importing cars from Saarlouis to make up the shortfall.

"Our industrial relations people are working daily to get the message across to the fellows that they must produce. After all, it is in their interests as well as ours."

Mr Toy said 1980 sales generally had held up surprisingly well and Ford was sticking to its original forecast of total registrations around 1.5 million. Next year, Ford envisaged a total car market of around 1.4 million, with a poor start and a recovery in the third or fourth quarter.

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### Volatile interest rates blamed for run on America's second largest trust

Bankers plug the leak in Liquid Assets

Concern about the effect of the volatility of interest rates on mutual funds, operating in the American money markets, has been sparked by a most unusual rescue operation mounted by Salomon Brothers of New York and the First National Bank of Chicago.

The banks had been advisers to a group called Institutional Liquid Assets of Chicago, one of whose funds has been involved in junk bond treasury securities investments and which has faced large withdrawals in recent weeks as interest rates have shot up.

This group has more than \$3,000m (about £1,260m) invested in two separate portfolios.

The rescue concerned one of these portfolios with assets of \$956m. Salomon Brothers bought \$228.5m of securities from the fund at \$700,000 above the market price, securing the group's First National of Chicago returned a \$1m advisory fee to the group, which was used to offset losses taken as the group sold \$215.4m of securities on Monday.

The banks had to move swiftly to staunch a run of redemptions and the possible collapse of Liquid Assets, America's second largest trust.

Had the run been allowed to continue and the fund become unable to meet its commitments, it would have caused severe losses in many institutions and dislocation of the fixed interest markets.

The fund ran into difficulties with the rise in American interest rates. The yield offered became unattractive compared to readily available other investments, and institutions began pulling their money out.

The flood of redemptions began in August but the pace quickened in September with large withdrawals from the part of the fund invested in government securities.

According to Donoghue's Money Fund Report, the industry newsletter, institutions withdrew \$430m in that month, cutting the value of the government securities portfolio by about 30 per cent.

The fund's yield has fallen out of line because the bulk of its investments were tied up in longer term assets, bought when interest rates were lower.

On September 30, its portfolio had an average maturity of 76 days, compared with an industry average of 40 days. This also made meeting redemptions difficult, because these securities, sold at a loss.

Mr Robert Brooker, Liquid Assets chairman, said the combined injection of cash from the banks should allow the fund to meet further redemptions and to restructure its portfolio so that the yield was more in line with competing investments.

A spokesman for Salomon said the bank was willing to absorb the loss to protect those clients whom it had put into the fund and who had stood to lose money.

Rival fund managers on Wall Street were curious that Liquid Assets had allowed its portfolio to become so distorted. All insisted that this was a "one off" problem, and that their funds were "in good shape".

Frank Vogl and Anthony Hilton

### Mini Metro makes Paris headlines

From Jan Murray, Paris, Oct 8

The Mini Metro arrived at the Paris Motor Show this morning a week late and in doing so succeeded in making headlines.

It was given a long appraisal on Europe 1, the radio station with the widest audience, during the morning peak listening hour and a long essayment in Le Figaro and Le Matin, two morning papers.

In Le Figaro the report on the Metro succeeded in pushing the car to the top of the list of new models. The paper's motoring correspondent says: "One has to lift the hat a long way to the designers for creating so much space inside the car. Le Matin says the Metro as 'the ideal small car, which many European constructors would have liked to have created.'"

Metro Strike: Production of the Metro was interrupted for a second time yesterday by a strike involving rectification workers (Clifford Webb writes). Some 60 men stopped work on the day and night shifts but after talks between management, local union officials and shop stewards a peace formula was reached which should lead to a full resumption today.

### PRICE CHANGES

rising	falling
aming W. 5p to 50p	Northgate Exp. 10p to 50p
ouch Grp. 8p to 15p	Shedding 2p to 15p
avies 5p to 50p	Ulman 7p to 45p
tercentile Rte. 22p to 32p	Warrington T. 4p to 45p
inorco 10p to 60p	

### THE POUND

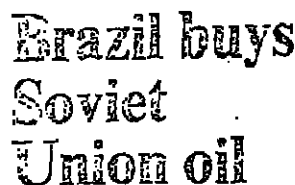
Bank	Rate	Bank	Rate
Australia 2.05	2.01	Norway 12.00	11.50
Canada 21.40	21.40	Sweden 12.00	11.50
Denmark 6.50	6.50	Switzerland 12.00	11.50
France 13.70	13.70	Taiwan 19.00	19.00
Germany 5.10	5.10	Thailand 12.00	11.50
Italy 10.35	10.35	USA 1.25	1.25
Japan 11.70	11.70	Yugoslavia 12.00	11.50
South Africa 12.15	12.15		
Spain 16.50	16.50		
Switzerland 12.00	12.00		
Taiwan 19.00	19.00		
Thailand 12.00	12.00		
USA 1.25	1.25		
Yugoslavia 12.00	12.00		

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### S African gold rise

## Slim chance for Canadian trade unity

There was also discrimination in the hiring of personnel. Oil rig jobs off the Newfoundland coast were mostly reserved for local people and there were legal advantages to being born in Nova Scotia.

He said a C\$5 a barrel increase would lead to a C\$1,500m cash transfer from the people of Ontario to the Alberta state treasury. At present 45 per cent of oil revenues go to the Alberta Government, a similar amount goes to the federal government and 10 per cent goes to the oil companies.

He is probably right, but layers of deep mistrust will first have to be stripped away before the nation truly prospers from its huge energy resources.

**Frank Vogt**

**The search for chairmen**      **Answers f**

There is disappointment in Detroit that the White House has not forced the Japanese Government to restrain shipments of cars to America. But government officials here have privately been against any form of intervention. They have argued that it was bad planning by Detroit that allowed the Japanese to take advantage of the American market.

**NCB sales slump fears**

By Our Industrial Staff

Sir Derek Ezra, chairman of

Sponsor

generally (7 per cent down) and in oil usage (down by 16.7 per cent).

Coal board chiefs expect that, barring an early and bitter

Private businesses, have already taken over patrons of the arts from individuals, are starting

Nor does it necessarily follow that his tolerance for competition increases as he continues in the job unless he

high rate taxpayers concerned, very few of them seem to appreciate the interest received from the savings society is grossed added on to their percomes, which for a high rate taxpayer is a particularly where the prospect whatsoever of growth to combat the

work in responsible positions in banking, insurance, shipping, foreign dealing and other fields.

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money supply and cutting Government spending. If they are achieved, then a moderate

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weeklies—which no doubt  
do. The single

activity is now recovering and, with the increased capital strength, we look to the future with very considerable confidence.

# The Group is in a strong commercial position

The Rt Hon Edmund Dell, PC  
Chairman and Chief Executive of the Guinness Peat Group



THE GUINNESS PEAT GROUP  
FOR EXPORT ACHIEVEMENT 1978

	1980	1979
<b>Capital and Reserves</b>	<b>£50.2 million</b>	<b>£47.3 million</b>
<b>Net Tangible Assets per share</b>	<b>64.72p</b>	<b>61.69p</b>
<b>Net Equity Earnings</b>	<b>£8.9 million</b>	<b>£6.5 million</b>
<b>Earnings per share</b>	<b>13.65p</b>	<b>9.88p</b>
<b>Net dividend per ord share</b>	<b>7.00p</b>	<b>6.25p</b>
<b>Gross equivalent</b>	<b>10.00p</b>	<b>8.92857p</b>

The Board has recommended a final dividend of 4.25p per ordinary share making a total of 7.00p per ordinary share for the year ended 30 April 1980. This represents an increase of 12% on the previous year.

**EXTRACT FROM THE CHAIRMAN'S STATEMENT**

Last year trading profits, as shown in the profit and loss account, amounted to £22,918,000 compared with £12,885,000 in the previous year.

The commodity broking and dealing division performed particularly well and the upward trend in profits by the money broking division

was maintained... it is important that the Group continues the policy of expanding its earnings base, and I am pleased to report that in addition to commodity broking, merchant banking, insurance broking, and aircraft leasing and broking all showed an increase in profits.

## Guinness Peat Group Limited

**MERCHANT BANKING  
COMMODITY BROKING  
MONEY BROKING AND OTHER FINANCIAL SERVICES INCLUDING  
PROPERTY AND INVESTMENTS  
CHEMICAL TRADING  
INTERNATIONAL PROJECT DEVELOPMENT AND COMMODITY  
PROCESSING  
GENERAL MERCHANTING  
INSURANCE BROKING**

The full Report and Accounts and the Chairman's Statement can be obtained from  
The Secretary Guinness Peat Group Limited, 32 St. Mary at Hill London EC3P 3AJ



stove" and his address. He did not go.

**Ross Davies**



## FINANCIAL NEWS

## Stock markets

## Investors stay on the sidelines

Inertia after Tuesday's banking figures continued yesterday as share prices fluctuated within narrow limits.

Investors, sensing that no cut in the Minimum Lending Rate was in the offing this week, sat on the sidelines, except for one or two buyers at the lower levels. End-of-account influences and an overnight setback on Wall Street were also to blame, although some dealers are still hoping for a small rally later today along with new-time buy-

ers. The FT Index, which opened 3.8 down, rallied around mid-morning to just 0.6 off at noon, but finally closed 3.8 down at 479.5.

Leading industrials spent a quiet session with worries over Glaxo's United States drugs operations, which are giving cause for concern, the main cause for concern, the main cause for concern.

ICI drifted another 4p to 330p, and profit taking clipped 6p from Rank Organisation at 166p following a good run. Falls of 1p to 2p were also seen in Beechams at 151p, Unilever at 486p, and Hawker Siddeley at 224p.

Shares showed initial disappointment at the interim figures from Harris Queensway as the shares tumbled 12p to 144p. But jobbers reported late buying following a statement on second-half prospects. Empire

Shares of I.C. Gas dipped 20p to 258p yesterday as a line of 100,000 passed through the market. There are market rumours of an important announcement but one is prepared to stick their neck out at this stage as the selling continues.

Stores' figures also revealed the slump down as the shares slipped 10p to 130p, but speculation lifted Mass Bros 20p to 210p ahead of today's figures. Elsewhere, the story was one of small selling with Boots off 4p at 223p, and Marks & Spencer 2p lighter at 105p. Only GUS "A" continued its advance 2p up at 460p.

Disappointing trading state-

ments were also responsible for setbacks in News International 2p to 91p, P. Austin (Leyton) 1p to 61p, Rockware 5p to 63p, Christie's International 4p to 218p, and Amalgamated Power 1p to 58p.

But encouraging profits lifted House of Lerosse 4p to 65p, and John Pinlan 6p to 83p.

In the meantime, the recent profits setback clipped another 5p from R. Cartwright at 33p. Ductile Steel hardened 3p to 71p ahead of figures due out soon.

Shares of Vosper fell 5p to 85p following sharply lower interim figures and the news that it accepted the Government's compensation terms but intends to put its case to the European Court in Strasbourg. Yarrow dropped 10p in sympathy.

Speculative attention was directed at Mercantile House, 22p higher at 424p. Steel 3p stronger at 153p and B. Paradise 9p heavier at 56p. Crouch Group advanced a further 8p to 152p on its recent property sale with Somporters adding 30p to 222p ahead of the annual meeting.

But newcomer Hesketh Motorcycles was a weak market, slipping 5p to 70p with shares of Peak Investment suspended 5p pending the appointment of a receiver.

Electricals had Amstrad 1p

higher at 94p, after figures, with Farnell gaining another 5p at 363p on its results. But GEC eased 9p to 516p, Racal 3p to 317p and Thorn-EMI 10p to 363p.

Oils spent another quiet session with BP down 6p at 406p, Shell 4p at 416p, Lasso 12p at 752p and Burmah 3p at 187p. Only Ultramar resisted the trend, rising 7p to 459p on further bid rumours.

Properties had a couple of special situations with British Land losing another 2p at 92p after a large sale of shares went through the market earlier in the week. Finance reversed to unchanged at 605p, after 615p, on comment with Laing Properties adding 1p to 192p.

Word is about that Mullins-Denny's half-year results, due at the end of the month, will reflect high stock levels and falling rates and push pretax profits down from £4.8m to £1.6m. So the year's outcome could be around £3.5m which may make Brooke Bond Leibig with its 25p per cent having more pretax. The shares slipped 1p to 68p yesterday.

following figures. Bid speculation helped Country & New Town, 4p to 59p.

Aussies were at a low ebb with worries over the further coming election. Sellers were in evidence. Peko World-seed dropped 15p to 555p, Australian Oil & Gas 18p to 143p and GKN 25p to 593p.

Equity turnover on October 7, was £118.87m, on 108.73 bargains. Active stocks yesterday according to the Exchange Telegraph, were, Ultramar, Lasso, Shell, Rank Org, BP, Burmah, Plessey, Racal, Telford, Plessey, I.C. Gas, New, ICI, CEC, Dunlop and Bechams.

Traded Options reported only minimal interest as total contracts dropped from 1,461 to 1,178. What interest there was involved Consolidated Gold Fields, which attracted 374 contracts. Lonrho also drew further inquiry with 158 contracts.

Traditional options saw only small inquiry for new business ahead of declaration day today. Calls were made in Shell at 32s, Lonrho at 101p and Double Eagle at 111.

## Latest results

Company	Sales	Profit	Earnings	Div	Pay	Year's
Int or Fin	£m	£m	per share	pence	date	total
Amalgamated Power (I)	38.5(30.0)	2.3(1.1)	2.37(2.98)	2(—)	28/11	—
Amstrad (G)	8.7(5.6)	1.4(0.0)	1.1(1.1)	2(—)	28/11	—
F. Austin (F)	8.37(9.35)	0.66(0.49)	3.11(2.66)	11(—)	—	0.18(0.78)
BPM (F)	67.89(57.5)	5.74(5.9)	113.2(92.9)	3.8(—)	—	5.25(—)
Charities (I)	15.9(11.6)	2.7(2.1)	2.0(1.7)	2(—)	26/11	—
Empire Stores (I)	71.1(63.8)	2.33(3.49)	3.42(5.13)	2.4(2.4)	14/11	5.1(4.5)
John Pinlan (I)	2.2(2.3)	0.22(0.14)	3.58(2.27)	1.5(1.0)	5/12	—
Harris Queensway (I)	48.8(30.3)	1.2(4.1)	2.55(8.84)	2(2)	28/11	(8)
House of Lerosse (I)	8.4(8.2)	0.57(0.4)	4.18(2.14)	2(—)	28/11	—
Humint (I)	71.5(75.0)	1.92(1.2)	14.5(8.14)	2.0(1.5)	20/11	—
Edward Jones (I)	2.4(1.4)	0.02(0.04)	—	—	—	—
M. P. Kent (F)	17.9(13.3)	3.04(1.85)	14.0(8.6)	1.4(1.2)	28/11	1.9(1.36)
Laing Prop (I)	4.9(3.7)	0.4(0.2)	—	2.1(2)	2/1	4.0(3.56)
Lawrie (I)	16.7(14.7)	0.2(0.2)	—	1.0(1.0)	24/10	(3.5)
Lifeshield (I)	6.37(6.07)	0.38(0.27)	2.69(1.88)	1.35(—)	—	2.05(1.8)
Ldn Strathclyde	11.4(10.1)	3.52(1.2)	16.48(13.7)	—	—	(6.65)
News Int (I)	85.8(59.3)	3.52(1.2)	14.3(3.6)	—	—	(4.6)
Rockware (I)	7.47(3.4)	0.37(0.59)	—	—	—	—
Vosper (I)	—	—	—	—	—	—

Dividends in this table are shown net of tax on pence per share. Elsewhere in Business News dividends are shown on a gross basis. To establish gross dividend the net dividend by 1.25. Profits are shown pre-tax and earnings are net. \* = Loss. † = Gross revenue. ‡ = Net revenue.

## Laing Properties rises 26 pc to half-year peak

Laing Properties, which formerly handled the property interests of construction group John Laing & Son before being split off two years ago, reported a 26 per cent increase in interim pretax profits yesterday.

Investment income climbed from £2.5m to £3m, which boosted total income from £3.2m to £4m. The trading profit remained unchanged at £700,000. After corporate charges up to £500,000, pretax earnings came

out at a record £3.4m against £2.7m last time.

The board says that investment income for the first half has maintained the steady progress made over the past two years and should show a rise of 20 per cent in the current year.

Office space has been let at Brentwood, Bristol and Birmingham and has brought the vacant space proportion of the group's investment portfolio to within "reasonable limits".

The gross interim dividend is 10.2p, net 8.2p, and 2.2p gross.

## Heavier interest hits APE

Amalgamated Power Engineering, the Birmingham-based manufacturer of steam turbines and diesel engines, saw trading profits improve for the six months to June, but have been badly hit by interest charges which nearly reached last year's level.

On a turnover up to £3.5m compared with £30m for the same period last year, trading profits were £2.2m, compared with £1.1m. Interest charges of £1.5m, compared with £446,000, brought pretax profits down to £708,000 against £796,000. The interim dividend is halved to 2.2p gross.

## Briefly

Arbuthnot Government Securities Trust: Gross revenue for year to July 31, 1979, £276,000 (1978, £276,000) for June 20 1978 to July 31 1979, £276,000 (1978, £276,000). Board expects to recommend total dividend for year to July 31 of 12.7p (1978, 12.7p). Board takes a most optimistic view of prospects for gilt-edged securities during current year.

John Pinlan: Turnover for half year to June 3, 1979, £2.31m (1978, £2.31m). Pre-tax profit £223,000 (£141,500). Eps 3.58p (2.27p). Interim 1.5p (1.0p). Trading profit is at a satisfactory level and will carry group through the present year and well into 1981.

Lee Valley Water: Proposed offer for sale of tender of 91 per cent redeemable preference stock 1987. Minimum price of issue £101 per cent.

F. Austin (Leyton): Turnover for year to June 30, 1979, £8.37m (£8.35m). Loss for year 1979, £264,000 (profit 1978, £264,000). Loss per share 3.1p (earnings 2.66p). Dividend for year 0.26p (1.11p).

Edward Jones Group has turned a loss of £44,000 into a profit of £22,000 for the half year to June 30, on turnover of £2.43m against £1.44m. The results reflect the improved trading of the company. The sale of surplus development land, and the steps taken to reduce money owed, have contributed to a reduction in overdraft and lessened the effect of high interest rates.

Lifeshield: Turnover for half year to June 28, 1979, £10.7m. Pre-tax profit £209,000 (£203,000). EPS 4.4p (4.2p). The 10p (same). Board says trading climate in which the group operates remains difficult and it is not possible to forecast results for rest of year.

London and South-East: Gross revenue for year to August 31, 1980, £673,000. Net revenue £387,500 (£271,800). EPS 2.69p (1.88p). Dividend 1.45p net (1.8p). Nav 78.7p (62.7p).

Marler Estates: Last month Board of Marler Estates approved a plan which might lead to an offer and Blade Investments (which holds 48 per cent of Marler) received an approach for a substantial part of its shareholding. Talks with Blade Investments have terminated as agreement could not be reached on extension of offer to other shareholders. Discussions are continuing regarding other approaches to Marler, and a further announcement will be made soon.

Cape Industries: Interim results for Cape Industries, manufacturers of fire protection, insulation and building products, showed pre-tax profits of £5.2m for the six months to June compared with £5.1m. Turnover was £108m compared with £102m. Due to a transcription error, these figures were incorrectly stated yesterday.

Certainly gold shares have had a remarkable run since the end of August. In the last six weeks gold bullion rose by 7.4 per cent, while gold shares jumped by 34 per cent.

Such has been the interest that several shares now exceed \$100 and market capitalizations are in the region of \$1,000m to \$2,000m. For four years the market-rated gold shares on the very high yield basis of 20 to 25 per cent, because of political

## Norsk shares tumble after London veto

The shares of Norwegian oil exploration company Norsk Viking Oil fell £11 to £17 in Oslo yesterday as Friday's London bargain, disallowed by the London Stock Exchange, were unwound over there.

The feeling in London yesterday was that the Stock Exchange's Quotations Committee had been busy in refusing permission for dealings in Norsk Viking under Rule 162 (2). The committee's power of veto is delegated to it by the Stock Exchange Council.

It is thought that Norsk Viking's 1979 balance sheet showed too wide a gap between its assets and liabilities, which approached £30 here on Friday, for the committee's liking.

The committee is also suspected of having chosen to err on the side of caution before the new unlisted securities market replaces all Rule 163 trading on November 10.

Norsk Viking, based in Trondheim, is an "in the corridor" stock in Oslo, the Norwegian equivalent of an "over-the-counter" stock here. Its shares took off on Friday, when Ekron announced that two wells drilled in 1978 and 1979 in the Duck Island unit off Prudhoe Bay in Alaska, had found oil. Norsk Viking owns 50 per cent of a company called Geopole which has a lease in that unit.

Norsk Viking has only 150,000 shares in issue, held by Norwegian institutions. British stockbroker T. C. Coombs is believed to have been a buyer in Oslo in the past.

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## Profits drop 34pc at Empire Stores

Dealers cut the share price of the retail group Empire Stores (Bradford) by 10p to 130p yesterday, on a 34 per cent drop in the 28 weeks to August 9. Sales rose by 11.5 per cent to £71.1m. The interim dividend is again 3.4p a share gross.

Yet warnings of tough times had come from store group UDS, which recently withdrew from mail order, and earlier this week from Freemans whose profits also went down 34 per cent.

Like Freemans, Empire's chairman, Mr J. Gratwick, reports that based on the first few weeks of the second half, an increase over last year's high sales looks unlikely. He adds: "It is already clear that a year profit will be well below the level of 1979-80."

Empire's business is not so tilted towards fashion as Freemans but unlike Freemans it does only part of its business through the Post Office. It is unlikely that it can get from the Post Office terms as good as Freemans. In fact, Empire had to pay more twice, last August and again last spring.

The chairman reports a substantial unexpected increase in postal charges, the unrecovered amount being around £500,000. High interest rates unexpectedly persisted and costs were inflated. The snag for mail order groups is that catalogue prices, fixed months in advance, can look out of date as High Street prices take their toll.

Mr Gratwick comments: "When our planning 12 months earlier for an increase in sales value of 20 per cent, as we were, and only achieves 11 per cent, the effect on profit is immediate."

On the brighter side, the chairman sees inflation slowing down. Suppliers' price increases have moderated, and Empire does not expect big price increases for the spring-summer catalogue. Interest charges, up to £305,000, helped to depress pretax profits.

After tax, profits were only £1.1m against £1.7m, to produce earnings a share of 3.42p for the 2.4p net dividend.

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## Recovery in US boosts News International

By Roman Eisenstein  
News International, publisher of the Sun and News of the World, has bettered its forecast by £1m for the first six months of its financial year. The forecast was made last July when News Corporation, the Australian group which is also controlled by Mr Rupert Murdoch, took control of the voting shares of News International.

For the six months to the end of June, News International's profits before tax rose from £12.2m to £13.3m on sales that increased from £98.5m to £104.1m. Profit margins thus fell by one point to 11.5 per cent.

The company has declared a 3.5p gross dividend on the recently created special dividend shares, effectively non-voting shares. This is equivalent to a final of 5 Australian cents declared by News Corporation for the year to the end of June.

The improvement in profits is essentially the result of a turnaround in the group's advertising sales in the United States. After a first-half loss of £1.25m last year, the United States interests made profits of £306,000 this year thanks to a return to profits of the New York Post. There was also a 160,000 lin. extraordinary credits compared with £382,000 Profits from associates and

extraordinary credits together were up by £1 last year. But for these would have been down year.

Mr Rupert Murdoch chairman, says that the situation is affecting all his businesses. He says the better industrial relation group will be in a strong position when there is an in the economy.

The company was hit by the NGA strike early year. The Sun and the News of the World each lost an average of 10,000 subscribers. The disparity cost the company £1.5m in lost profits.

## Amstrad on target, but retained profits slump

By Margaret Pagano  
Amstrad Consumer Electronics, which was ten times oversubscribed when it floated in April, has fulfilled forecasts and reports pretax profits up by 50 per cent to £104m in the year to June. But de-stocking and flotation costs have left retained profits down by 25 per cent.

The London-based company, which manufactures hi-fi equipment, car audio products, cassette players and clock radios, saw turnover increase by 56 per cent from £5.5m to £8.7m.

After a tax charge of £303,000 which Mr Alan Sugar, the chairman, said came from a decision to reduce stock levels to "certain hi-fi products", profits were £104m compared with £11.8m the previous year, which included a tax credit of £168,000. An extraordinary item of £184,000 covered the flotation costs and left retained profits of £807,332 against £1m last year.

Gross final dividend of 2.8p was recommended. Earnings per share, dipped from 11.5p to 11.3p, excluding the flotation costs.

The company says that sales in some areas of the hi-fi market were down and production



Mr Alan Sugar, chairman of Amstrad

was stopped in certain lines early in the year not in order to burden liquidity.

The introduction of a sophisticated micro hi-fi range was delayed for this reason and will be brought on the market when demand improves.

The offer price of 85p a share, when it was floated in April, put a value of £7.93m on the company. Yesterday the shares rose 1p to 94p to yield 5 per cent. Shareholders are entitled to a year dividend of 4.7p gross.

Overall margins



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# MARKET REPORTS

## Commodities

**COPPER** was higher. American Copper was up 10¢ to 35.00. London was up 10¢ to 35.00. The market was quiet. American Copper was up 10¢ to 35.00. London was up 10¢ to 35.00. The market was quiet.

**WHEAT** was higher. American Wheat was up 10¢ to 35.00. London was up 10¢ to 35.00. The market was quiet. American Wheat was up 10¢ to 35.00. London was up 10¢ to 35.00. The market was quiet.

**SOYBEANS** were higher. American Soybeans were up 10¢ to 35.00. London was up 10¢ to 35.00. The market was quiet. American Soybeans were up 10¢ to 35.00. London was up 10¢ to 35.00. The market was quiet.

**CORN** was higher. American Corn was up 10¢ to 35.00. London was up 10¢ to 35.00. The market was quiet. American Corn was up 10¢ to 35.00. London was up 10¢ to 35.00. The market was quiet.

**COFFEE** was higher. American Coffee was up 10¢ to 35.00. London was up 10¢ to 35.00. The market was quiet. American Coffee was up 10¢ to 35.00. London was up 10¢ to 35.00. The market was quiet.

**TEA** was higher. American Tea was up 10¢ to 35.00. London was up 10¢ to 35.00. The market was quiet. American Tea was up 10¢ to 35.00. London was up 10¢ to 35.00. The market was quiet.

**SPICES** were higher. American Spices were up 10¢ to 35.00. London was up 10¢ to 35.00. The market was quiet. American Spices were up 10¢ to 35.00. London was up 10¢ to 35.00. The market was quiet.

**STAPLES** were higher. American Staples were up 10¢ to 35.00. London was up 10¢ to 35.00. The market was quiet. American Staples were up 10¢ to 35.00. London was up 10¢ to 35.00. The market was quiet.

**OTHERS** were higher. American Others were up 10¢ to 35.00. London was up 10¢ to 35.00. The market was quiet. American Others were up 10¢ to 35.00. London was up 10¢ to 35.00. The market was quiet.

## Discount market

The spread of rates over the three-month rate was a little wider than on Tuesday. The market was quiet. The spread of rates over the three-month rate was a little wider than on Tuesday. The market was quiet.

## Foreign exchange report

For the third day running, the "effective" exchange rate index registered three unchanged calculations of 75.8. The market was quiet. For the third day running, the "effective" exchange rate index registered three unchanged calculations of 75.8. The market was quiet.

## Sterling: Spot and Forward

Market rates (pence per £100) were: 1 month 1.47-1.48, 3 months 1.47-1.48, 6 months 1.47-1.48, 12 months 1.47-1.48. The market was quiet.

## Other Markets

Gold prices were higher. American Gold was up 10¢ to 35.00. London was up 10¢ to 35.00. The market was quiet. American Gold was up 10¢ to 35.00. London was up 10¢ to 35.00. The market was quiet.

## Indices

Bank of England Index was 100.00. The market was quiet. Bank of England Index was 100.00. The market was quiet.

## Dollar Spot Rates

Market rates (cents per \$100) were: 1 month 1.47-1.48, 3 months 1.47-1.48, 6 months 1.47-1.48, 12 months 1.47-1.48. The market was quiet.

## Money Market Rates

Bank of England 12 month rate was 10.00%. The market was quiet. Bank of England 12 month rate was 10.00%. The market was quiet.

## EMS Currency Rates

ECU currency rates were: 1 month 1.47-1.48, 3 months 1.47-1.48, 6 months 1.47-1.48, 12 months 1.47-1.48. The market was quiet.

## Local Authority Rates

Local Authority rates were: 1 month 1.47-1.48, 3 months 1.47-1.48, 6 months 1.47-1.48, 12 months 1.47-1.48. The market was quiet.

## Euro-Deposits

Gold prices were higher. American Gold was up 10¢ to 35.00. London was up 10¢ to 35.00. The market was quiet. American Gold was up 10¢ to 35.00. London was up 10¢ to 35.00. The market was quiet.

## Gold

Gold prices were higher. American Gold was up 10¢ to 35.00. London was up 10¢ to 35.00. The market was quiet. American Gold was up 10¢ to 35.00. London was up 10¢ to 35.00. The market was quiet.

## Authorized Units, Insurance & Offshore Funds

Authorized Unit Trusts				Insurance				Offshore Funds			
Unit Name	Assets	Liabilities	Net Assets	Unit Name	Assets	Liabilities	Net Assets	Unit Name	Assets	Liabilities	Net Assets
1. ABC Unit Trust	100.00	50.00	50.00	1. DEF Insurance	100.00	50.00	50.00	1. GHI Offshore	100.00	50.00	50.00
2. JKL Unit Trust	200.00	100.00	100.00	2. MNO Insurance	200.00	100.00	100.00	2. PQR Offshore	200.00	100.00	100.00
3. STU Unit Trust	300.00	150.00	150.00	3. VWX Insurance	300.00	150.00	150.00	3. YZA Offshore	300.00	150.00	150.00
4. BCD Unit Trust	400.00	200.00	200.00	4. EFG Insurance	400.00	200.00	200.00	4. HIJ Offshore	400.00	200.00	200.00
5. IJK Unit Trust	500.00	250.00	250.00	5. LMN Insurance	500.00	250.00	250.00	5. OPQ Offshore	500.00	250.00	250.00
6. RST Unit Trust	600.00	300.00	300.00	6. UVW Insurance	600.00	300.00	300.00	6. XYZ Offshore	600.00	300.00	300.00
7. GHI Unit Trust	700.00	350.00	350.00	7. ABC Insurance	700.00	350.00	350.00	7. DEF Offshore	700.00	350.00	350.00
8. JKL Unit Trust	800.00	400.00	400.00	8. EFG Insurance	800.00	400.00	400.00	8. HIJ Offshore	800.00	400.00	400.00
9. MNO Unit Trust	900.00	450.00	450.00	9. IJK Insurance	900.00	450.00	450.00	9. LMN Offshore	900.00	450.00	450.00
10. PQR Unit Trust	1000.00	500.00	500.00	10. OPQ Insurance	1000.00	500.00	500.00	10. RST Offshore	1000.00	500.00	500.00



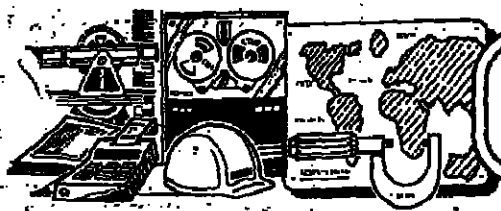
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